

# Temperance - 1938

## FOR THE SAKE OF THE WEAK

To the Editor of The Telegraph:

Will you white people who are disputing over how to best handle the intoxicating liquor question in Georgia permit an old experienced Negro Baptist preacher to have a few words to say on the subject?

What I have to say is more in the form of an earnest appeal to the white citizens of Georgia for the benefit of about a half million Negroes of Georgia, who don't have the privilege of expressing themselves by the ballot, of what to do about this matter. However, they are the main ones on or upon whom many are depending to take a large part of the little money they make and spend it for liquor and beer.

For the sake of the thousands of poor, weak, ignorant Negroes of Georgia, who look largely to the white people of Georgia as their guides in social, religious and moral questions, I most earnestly appeal to you, that you deny yourselves of the money that you expect to make from the sale of intoxicating liquors, for the sake of good morals and good behavior that will come to the state as a result of this self-denial.

You may study the life of every Negro in Georgia and the United States who has amounted to very much in this life and you will find that he has been one who has consistently stuck to practical, every-day religion and Christian education.

Liquor and the dance hall have done as much if not more, to my mind, to destroy the usefulness of many of the young members of my race than any two things that I know of.

One of the chief reasons given for the repeal of the eighteenth amendment to the constitution was, that it would bring to the government of the United States 121 million dollars a year in taxes. If that be true, then the manufacturers and dealers would make a great deal more than that. Then the great question is, who is going to drink all of that liquor and beer? My answer is, our sons and our daughters, our wives and our husbands. Then what will be the fruits of all this drinking?—Murder, misery and woe; rape, lynching, reckless driving, railroad wrecks, mothers and children deprived of sufficient food, clothing, shelter and education.

Whisky is too great a foe to the well-being of the American people to allow it to be put so easily into the hands of weak, thoughtless and irresponsible people. I believe whisky is a good poisonous medicine that should be sold only by druggists upon prescription from regular licensed physicians.

It is painful to us Negroes who have the well-being of our people at heart to hear the officials of our state and national governments frankly acknowledge their inability to check the illegal manufacture and sale of such an awful and damaging enemy to our civilization as intoxicating liquors.

J. H. GADSON.

Macon.

Sheffield, Ala., Tri-Cities Daily  
March 21, 1938

## FORM NEGRO W. C. T. U.

Annie Stewart has been elected president of the negro Women's Christian Temperance Union which was organized at the Slater negro school in Florence, Saturday, March 12, by the white women's organization of which Mrs. J. A. Clark is president and Mrs. F. L. Hacker, corresponding secretary. Other officers of the negro organization are Carolyn Winfield, vice-president; Lula Mae Thompson, recording secretary; Mildred E. Green, corresponding secretary, and Lula Craig, treasurer. Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Hacker, who were assisted by Mrs. M. Leroy, vice-president; Mrs. Kenneth Brown, recording secretary and Mrs. Merwin T. Koonce, of the white union, in organizing the negro group, said the purpose of the negro organization, like that of the white organization, would be to combat the liquor and dope traffic among the negroes and to promote sobriety.

Charleston, S. C. News & Courier  
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## LIQUOR SALE HIT BY CHURCH GROUP

### Christians Also See Peace as Only Hope to Keep Civilization Alive

A young people's banquet, with an address by the Rev. G. Bartow Harris, of Summerville, concluded the three-day state missionary convention of the Christian denomination last night at the First Christian church. Mr. Harris spoke on "The Church as an International, Inter-racial Institution".

Yesterday morning the convention registered opposition to "the present system of liquor traffic; belief that peace is the only means of survival for civilization, and asked for the "strict enforcement of laws". It resolved also to participate to the fullest extent in the church's national program.

Olin Fox spoke, declaring there are some things in life that are better than gold, among them a good home, good health, a good conscience and a soul.

Charles D. Gordon, of Columbia;

Claris A. Smith, of Ellenton, and Mrs. B. B. Kirkland, of Columbia, were reelected to the board and the Rev. Ellsworth A. Cole, of Charleston, and A. J. Timmons, of Sumter, were elected to replace W. J. Swindell, of Varnville, and Leroy Dantzler, of Russellville, resigned. The Rev. Thomas P. Inabinet, of Greenville, was elected recording secretary.

Mrs. Kirkland was named president of the Women's Missionary society, replacing Mrs. Cecil F. Outlaw, who was chosen librarian and editor of the woman's page of the South Carolina Christian.

Mrs. Mattie Herndon, of Walterboro, was elected vice president of the state society. Other officers are Mrs. S. W. Breeland, of Holly Hill, recording secretary; Mrs. Charles D. Gordon, of Columbia, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. M. W. Mason, of Columbia, treasurer.

No convention city was selected for 1939. The city will be selected by a committee of which Mrs. W. A. Cox is chairman, from invitations tendered during the year.

After a memorial and communion service for members of the church who have died since the last convention, yesterday afternoon was devoted to sightseeing. The services were conducted by Niles R. Bishop, of St. Stephen. Felix L. Fox was chairman of the committee on memorials.



# THE "WEAK" SISTER



## Women Not Weaker Sex; Have Proved Stronger Than Men, Says Speaker

Wasn't it Delilah who clipped Samson's wings—literally and figuratively? And there's our own Ora Washington who can take the measure of almost any man on the old tennis courts. So who said what about woman being the weaker sex?

The by-word "glamour" today may be just so much poppycock. The catchword for commercial advertisers to bait the feminine eye. Fear of the loss of mystttery and femininity which men call her greatest charm may be just their cover-up for an inferiority complex in the face of so much stamina and plain old horse sense in the "little woman."

In coming to grips with the world today, she may be just repeating history of the old frontier days. Today, as then, she will tell you she can enter the ring and scrap like a man; be a man's woman among men and talk "man to man" with



MRS. MARY McLEOD BETHUNE

Alice Dunbar-Nelson will always be recalled as exemplifying such qualities-magnificently! Yet, she could be O, so feminine! Or take the homely philosopher Nannie Burroughs, our present politician-educator, Mary McLeod Bethune, in Washington, D. C.; Crystal Bird Fauset, first Negro assembly woman, from Pennsylvania—or anywhere, no doubt.

Backing up this contention, is a Mrs. Jessie Mapp, of Chicago, a church woman of some prominence in the middle-west, who is vice-president of the Women's Convention Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention.

"Man has failed utterly in selecting capable, honest officials in government, but women are no longer a realm, they are a reality, and must come in and strive for honest government," she said. They are to take an interesting more active part in the shaping of the government and destiny of this country.

They've got the seeds in them, she believes.

"The influence of women today," she continued, "cannot be contradicted. November tells of a mother from Wooster, Ohio—a shy little retiring violet gave a healthy influence over young men," she said. "Young women should inspire their young men to do something—to be something—to have some-thing!" she finished.

standing achievement as wife and mother of the Comptons."

This mother believes in what she calls environment heredity—not the heredity that "worth is handed down in a blue bloodstream. Lincoln's heredity was nil."

"The home is a forgotten platitude," said this woman. "The tragedy of American life is that the home is becoming incidental when it is needed as never before. . . . Parents forget that their children are their first responsibility."

But Mrs. Mapp was concerned with pointing out the strength of women as compared with that of man. And she selected Sampson as an illustration that the female of the species is more deadly than the male.

Perhaps the time in which Negro women have managed to forge to the front has been too short for fair conclusion. Since those who do hold the spotlight for prowess and influence are in such small numbers, after all.

It may or may not be significant that of the outstanding Negro women going down into history for their past contributions and their everlasting influence upon the race itself, few if any of them have had grown sons or



MISS NANNIE BURROUGHS

daughters sharing the limelight with them. Few of them have today! And doubtless mighty few of them are mothers at all.

For the sheer beauty of her spiritual influence, we have the memory of Sojourner Truth and others like her, whose message and mission fitted the era in which they lived and carried on down through the years their prophetic truths.

However, from the noble vanguard of those who do shine forth as a beacon challenging Negro women of today: charging they have a sacred mission outside the home, as well as duty in the home today, we point with pride to the late Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Bethune, Mrs. Burroughs, and Mrs. Fauset.

Mrs. Fauset, says of the women of today—she is refined and